Join in to help Dentaid to help disadvantaged communities

Dentaid tackles Mount Sinai for 2007 Trek

Dentaid is offering members of the dental profession and the general public the opportunity to conquer Mount Sinai, visit the Pyramids and trek through part of the Sahara—one of the most varied and beautiful desert landscapes in the world. The Charley Trek, which takes place from the 25 Nov–1 Dec 2007, will raise vital funds for Dentaid's pioneering work improving oral health for disadvantaged communities around the world.

The challenge event follows on from Dentaid's highly successful Italy trek climbing the three active volcanoes of Vesuvius, Stromboli and Etna in 2006, which was hailed by all who took part as an experience of a lifetime.

Chief Executive Luke Wordley said—"This year we wanted to take our supporters somewhere more exotic, and offer experiences even more out of the ordinary"! The trips highlights include—Visiting the Pyramids at Giza; one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World; Climbing Mount Sinai—where Moses is believed to have received the Ten Commandments; Encountering the grandeur and beauty of the Sinai landscape; and camping out in Bedouin tents or even under the stars of the pristine desert sky. On the last day there is also a chance to relax on the shores of the Red Sea.

Those who would like to take part must raise a minimum of £1000, of which at least £1000 goes to Dentaid after tour costs. However, Fundraising Assistant Dafydd Pierce is determined that no-one should be put off by this aspect of the challenge. Almost 100 people have successfully taken part in Challenge Events for Dentaid in the past and with Dentaid's extensive support, advice and ideas, past trekkers have regularly exceeded their fundraising goals with ease.

Run the world’s biggest half marathon for Dentaid

Dentaid is offering all members of the dental team the opportunity to help disadvantaged communities in the developing world by taking part in the Great North Run in Newcastle on Sunday 30 September 2007.

Dentaid has secured 25 places for those who would like to support the charity's pioneering work by running all 15.1 miles of the world's biggest half marathon. Taking part and raising funds for Dentaid's work is a great way to get fit and make a positive impact on peoples lives in the developing world.

Dentaid's Chief Executive Luke Wordley comments: "The challenge of the GNR is in both completing the race and raising important funds for a charity. Every year huge numbers of participants set about achieving personal fundraising targets, sometimes in the thousands, for causes that they identify with. With this in mind, Dentaid is very aware of the importance of its role in securing guaranteed places for supporters. ‘Without the efforts of fundraisers, Dentaid projects simply could not have progressed in the way that they have’.

Last years run was a great success for the charity with a new record set for individual GNR sponsorship by Paul Harriss from Denplan for Dentaid. A Dental Student at Cardiff who also ran for Dentaid recommends others take up the challenge: ‘The run itself was a great experience. The atmosphere was fantastic’.

Applications must pay a £55 registration fee and pledge to raise a minimum £400 sponsorship to ensure that the charity's involvement in the GNR continues to benefit the communities it serves with. However, Fundraising Assistant Dafydd Pierce is keen to highlight that this is more than achievable for most supporters: ‘Fundraisers who work in practices or for dental companies often find that patients and colleagues are very willing to make a donation or provide sponsorship when told about the treatment they might receive in the developing world.’ All runners are given practical fundraising and training advice, fundraising packs from Dentaid running T-shirt.

Denplan practices get pedalling for Dentaid

Dentaid and Denplan have announced the partnership’s first major challenge event, taking place from 1 to 9 September 2007. The bike ride, following the famous route from John O’Groats in the north-east tip of Scotland to Lands End in the south-west tip of England, will enable Denplan members from all over the UK to take part and raise money in support of the partnership. Already, over 20 Denplan practices have signed up to take part and the numbers are still growing.

Denplan has split the 874 mile journey into five legs and is asking participants to simply ride one leg, which is about 25 miles. There will be two support vans 25-mile legs per day and each leg should take about 5 hours to complete. In addition, the team of 5 could do 5 miles each and any number of practices can take part at any one time.

To participate in the challenge Dentaid is asking that each participant raise £1000 in sponsorship. Dentaid will be there every step of the way to support the fundraisers with ideas, tips and promotional material, enabling them to maximise their fundraising opportunities. Dentaid will also provide advice on training for the ride to ensure that everyone completes their section of the route.

The Denplan/Dentaid support team will be present throughout the entire journey, encouraging the riders and ensuring the health and safety of the cyclists. There will be two support vans with the cyclists at all times, plus a co-ordination team to meet, greet and photograph the cyclists at the start of each leg. Denplan employees have also got into the spirit of the occasion and at least one employee will be taking part in each section of the route.

To celebrate the end of this epic 9-day journey, Denplan is asking as many riders as possible to raise money and ride the final 14 miles from Penzance to Lands End on 9th September 2007 between 17.00 and 19.00 hrs.

“Not only is the bike ride a chance to get fit in 2007, but also to have fun and raise money for Dentaid. This ride is a real opportunity for us all to get behind the partnership and support Dentaid’s vital work within the developing world. We have a lot of member dentists who are keen cyclists, I call on them all to join in and ride 25 miles in their area,” commented Stephen Gates, Managing Director, Denplan.

‘With the money raised from the ride Dentaid will be able to continue to empower and support millions of people who without our help would continue to suffer the agony of pain of tooth decay and disease, with no hope of relief. People, whose only option is to seek treatment from blacksmiths or other self-taught practitioners, typically with no anaesthetic or cross infection control. Money raised from this event really will help to save lives,” added Jenni Phillips, Partnership Co-ordinator, Dentaid.

Contact Info

In order to get a guaranteed place in the Great North Run for Dentaid, please contact Daf for an application pack on 01794 524249 or email info@dentaid.org. For further information about Dentaid please visit www.dentaid.org.

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For further information about the John O’Groats to Lands End bike ride or other 2007 fundraising activities, including Denplan trekking the Inca Trail in May 2008, please contact Jenni on 01794 525140 or email dentaid@denplan.co.uk.